

# SECTION I. GENERAL NOTES

This report presents data on the demographic and employment characteristics of the nation's doctoral sciences and engineers. The data were developed as part of the Doctorate Data Project.<sup>1</sup> The goal of the 1999 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR) is to provide policymakers and researchers with high-quality data and analyses for making informed decisions related to the educational achievement and career patterns of the nation's doctoral sciences and engineers. Current information on the supply and utilization of doctoral personnel in science and engineering reflects the results of SDR, the 14th in a biennial series. The population of the 1999 survey includes persons under the age of 76 who hold doctorates in science or engineering from U.S. institutions.

The SDR is a longitudinal demographic survey of science and engineering doctorate holders conducted biennially for the National Science Foundation (NSF) and for other Federal agencies (current and past sponsors included NIH and DOE) since 1973. The Technical Notes in Section II contain information on survey methodology, coverage, concepts, definitions, and sampling errors.

Various changes made in the 1999 data tables are also noted in the Technical Notes.

The detailed statistical tables in Section III provide information on the number and median salaries of scientists and engineers by field of degree and occupation; for demographic characteristics such as gender, race/ethnicity, and citizenship; and employment-related characteristics such as occupation, sector of employment, median annual salary, and various labor force rates.

For further information on the survey or the availability of data on Science and Engineering doctorates, please go to <http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/srs/cdse/start.htm> or contact:

Kelly H. Kang  
Division of Science Resources Statistics  
National Science Foundation, Room 965  
4201 Wilson Boulevard  
Arlington, VA. 22230  
Telephone: (703) 292-7796  
E-mail: [kkang@nsf.gov](mailto:kkang@nsf.gov)

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<sup>1</sup>The Doctorate Data Project consists of the Survey of Doctorate Recipients, a biennial survey conducted since 1973, and the Survey of Earned Doctorates, an annual census of research doctorates awarded since 1920, which forms the Doctorate Records File.